

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-32 have been canceled, without prejudice, and new claims 33-36 have been added to more clearly recite the distinguishing features of the present invention as supported by the disclosure in the specification and drawings.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims be approved and entered.

THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 1-3, 7, 16, 25, 27, 29, and 31 were rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by JP 2000/293145 ("Saga"). This rejection, however, is respectfully traversed with respect to the claims as amended hereinabove.

The present invention relates to an image signal generation unit and method for generating image signals to be output to a display panel, and a digital camera. Specifically, new independent claim 33 recites an image signal generation circuit comprising: (i) a display panel (19') in which RGB dots of one color are horizontally shifted by 1.5 pixels in two adjacent

lines from an initial pixel configuration represented by color components; and (ii) a first horizontal pixel number conversion means (12) for converting a horizontal pixel number of image data of a luminance/chrominance system to a horizontal pixel number suitable for generation of video signals for a specific television system, wherein the first horizontal pixel number conversion means comprises a color component selection means for selecting one color component data from each odd number pixel in a first line of the RGB signal, selecting one color component data from each even number pixel in a second line of the RGB signal adjacent to the first line thereof, and converting the number of horizontal pixels of the RGB signal to the number of horizontal pixels suitable for display on the display panel. See, for example, Fig. 4 of the present application.

In addition, new independent claim 33 recites that the color component selection means selects color component data from the RGB signal so that the selected data form a color component arrangement identical to that of RGB dots on the display panel, and that the color component selection means selects color component data of one color so that the color component data of the selected one color in the first line of the RGB signal are shifted horizontally by three pixels from the second line of the RGB signal that is adjacent to the first line thereof. See, for example, Figs. 3A and 3B of the present application.

Claim 36, moreover, recites an image signal generation method corresponding to the image signal generation circuit described in independent claim 33.

With the structure and method of the claimed present invention, an RGB image signal suitable for display on a display panel of a so-called delta array is generated from image data. When the RGB image signal is generated from the image data, one color signal is selected from each odd number pixel in the first line of an RGB signal, and one color signal is also selected from each even number pixel in the second line of the RGB signal that is adjacent to the first line thereof. These pixels are used as markers for conversion of the RGB signal into something suitable for display on the display panel.

Specifically, the color component data is selected from an RGB signal generated by a liquid crystal encoder (14), and used to generate an image to be displayed on the display panel. As there are only 352 source electrodes representing image data, and 704 horizontal pixels of the display panel, an interpolation process is required to expand the image data. See, for example, Figs. 3A and 3B of the present application.

By contrast, Saga discloses converting image data, in which 640 pixels are comprised in one line and 704 pixels are comprised in a second line are converted into image data and output to an LCD screen (117) and a video output terminal (130). See, for

example, paragraph [0121] of Saga. It is respectfully pointed out that no specific arrangements are described for the RGB pixels on the LCD, and no encoding feature is used to generate and appropriate RGB signal to be displayed on the LCD. Instead, Saga merely discloses that the VRAM controller circuit (115) reads the images from VRAM memory (116) and outputs such images to the LCD 117. See, for example, paragraph [0176] of Saga.

It is respectfully submitted, therefore, that Saga does not teach or suggest the features of the present invention as recited in new independent claims 33 and 36 whereby selected data form a color component arrangement identical to that of RGB dots on the display panel, and color component data of one color is selected so that the color component data of the selected one color in the first line of the RGB signal are shifted horizontally by three pixels from the second line of the RGB signal that is adjacent to the first line thereof.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention as recited in new independent claims 33 and 36, and claims 34 and 35 respectively depending therefrom, clearly patentably distinguish over Saga, under 35 USC 102 as well as under 35 USC 103.

In view of the foregoing, entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

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